

CLAIMS

1. Use of a natriuretic peptide (ANP or BNP) for the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of short stature in a subject being suspected of having a genetic defect in the SHOX gene.
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2. Use of a natriuretic peptide (ANP or BNP) in combination with a growth protein for the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of short stature in a subject being suspected of having a genetic defect in the human SHOX gene.
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3. Use according to claim 2, wherein said subject is a human subject and said growth hormone is human growth hormone.
- 15 4. Use of a natriuretic peptide (ANP or BNP) and a SHOX protein for the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of short stature in a subject being suspected of having a genetic defect in the human SHOX gene.
- 20 5. Use according to claim 4 wherein said SHOX protein is a SHOX I protein, especially SHOX A protein or SHOX B protein.
6. Use according to claims 1 – 5 for the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions for stimulating or increasing human growth.
- 25 7. Use according to claims 1 – 6 for the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of patients with idiopathic short stature, patients with Turner syndrome or patients with Leri-Weill syndrome.
- 30 8. Use of a natriuretic peptide (ANP or BNP) and a SHOX protein for the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of patients with cardiovascular diseases.

9. Use according to claim 8 wherein the patients are suspected of having a genetic defect in the human growth gene SHOX I.
- 5 10. Use according to claim 9 for the preparation of medicaments for the treatment of patients with idiopathic short stature, patients with Turner syndrome or patients with Leri-Weill syndrome.
- 10 11. Use according to any of claims 1 – 10 wherein the natriuretic peptide is nesiritide.
- 15 12. An article of manufacture comprising packaging material and a pharmaceutical composition comprising a natriuretic peptide (ANP and/or BNP) contained within said packaging material, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is therapeutically effective for treatment of short stature due to a SHOX gene disorder, and wherein said packaging material comprises a label which indicates that said natriuretic peptide can be administered to a subject with a SHOX gene disorder.
- 20 13. The article of manufacture of claim 12 further comprising a pharmaceutical composition comprising a growth hormone.
14. The article of manufacture of claim 13 wherein the growth hormone is human growth hormone.
- 25 15. The article of manufacture of claim 12 – 14 further comprising a pharmaceutical composition comprising a SHOX protein.
- 30 16. An article of manufacture comprising packaging material and a pharmaceutical composition comprising a natriuretic peptide (ANP and/or BNP) and a pharmaceutical composition of a SHOX protein contained within said packaging

material, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is therapeutically effective for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases, and wherein said packaging material comprises a label which indicates that said natriuretic peptide is effective in treatment of subjects with a SHOX gene disorder.

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17. Use of a natriuretic peptide (ANP or BNP) according to claims 1 – 7 and 9 - 11, said patients being identified of having a genetic defect in the human growth gene SHOX using a nucleic acid molecule capable of hybridizing to the SHOX gene.

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